[TFR 65-1]

[handwritten "20"] Top Secret [handwritten "463"]

Deputy Head, Camp No. 64 Directorate of Operations To Senior Lieutenant Comrade IVANOV City of Morshansk

The GUPVI of the MVD, USSR urgently demands that you establish the whereabouts of the American POWs who were earlier detained in MVD Camp No. 188: BONNER Karl Karl, born in 1919; and VAJLER Iogan Gustav, born in 1922.

We have checked all the documents and have established that BONNER and VAJLER were in fact held in Camp No. 188. They went through the appropriate screening, after which they were determined to be Germans, not Americans. They were included by the Senior Operational Representative, Junior Lieutenant LOBANOV, on the list of POWs who were not subject to be sent for repatriation.

However, upon review of the d/f "torgovets", POW BONNER is listed in the register and in the index file of the Camp No. 188 registration account as having departed for Frankfurt on the Oder for repatriation on 20 Jul 46, but there are no traces [of him] in the URO's transport list and card index of the departing [repatriates]. VAJLER is also not listed amongst those repatriated or sent to other camps. Thus, the POW's VAJLER and BONNER have not departed Camp No. 188 and must be held in the camps of the Tambov Oblast'. However, no traces [of them] were found during the search.

Upon receipt of this letter, I ask you to immediately begin a search and determine the whereabouts of the abovementioned POW's. Use agent "Naugard" and other POW's who knew them in camp No. 188 to aid in this search.

You are to simultaneously make an inquiry with the operations officer Junior Lieutenant LOBANOV, who earlier dealt with the Americans, as to what he knows about BONNER and VAJLER. Find out what documentation was used to show that POW BONNER was repatriated on 20 Jul 46.

Given the seriousness and importance of resolving this matter, a reply is requested as soon as possible.

HEAD OF THE OPVI UMVD TO MAJOR (KHVALENSKIJ) "28" Jan 47 no. [illeg.]46 [handwritten "Received [illeg. signature] 28 Jan 47"]